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4-87-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Asgeir Saebo *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/271,024

Group No.: 1615

Filed: 03/17/99

Examiner: Oke

Entitled:

CONJUGATED LINOLEIC ACID COMPOSITIONS



**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
DATED FEBRUARY 14, 2000**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)(1)(i)(A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Dated: April 13, 2000

By

Sir or Madam:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed February 14, 2000, Applicants elect the Claims in Group II, with traverse.

REMARKS

In order to further their business interests, Applicants elect Group II, although with traverse. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the restriction, as Applicants believe that Groups I (Claims 1-4), II (Claims 5-8), and III (Claims 9-12) should be combined into one Group. Specifically, Group I relates to a mixture of free fatty acids of conjugated linoleic acid containing less than 1% total of trans-trans, 8,10, and 11,13 isomers of octadecadienoic acid; Group II relates to acylglycerides containing conjugated linoleic acid moieties characterized in containing less than 1% total of trans-trans, 8,10, and 11,13 isomers of octadecadienoic acid; and Group III relates to a mixture of alkylesters of conjugated linoleic acid containing less than 1% total of trans-trans, 8,10, and 11,13 isomers of octadecadienoic acid. Thus, each of the claims relate to identical fatty acid moieties, either in the free fatty acid or derivatized forms.